

at least one external device capable of transferring the software to said information device over a network, wherein the software is associated with an information owner remote from said external device, and wherein said software is transferred over said network by said external device as delegated by said information owner; and

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said information device configured to perform an acknowledgment process, wherein said acknowledgment process produces a verifiable acknowledgement of the transferred software and sends said verifiable acknowledgement over said network to said information owner for validation by said information owner.

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#### REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed December 30, 2002, the Examiner rejected pending claims 1, 3, 4, 7-9, 11, 13-16, 19, 24-27, and 34-37. The present Amendment amends claim 1. As a result, claims 1, 3, 4, 7-9, 11, 13-16, 19, 24-27, and 34-37 remain pending in the present application (3 independent claims, 23 claims total). No new matter has been added by this Amendment. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following Remarks.

##### A. Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 3, 4, and 11-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed. In particular, the Examiner asserts that "the claim is missing the element of the system and means of transferring the acknowledgment to said 'remote information owner'."

Applicant does not fully understand the Examiner's statement in that it seems to require that the Applicant *add* an element to the claim, rather than amend or clarify an element that